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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

YEAR 1925.

DERBY.
DAVID S. BUTLER, LTD., PRINTERS, 37-39, LONDON ROAD.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Alvaston and Boulton Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I am submitting to you my Annual Report on the Health of the District under your charge for the year ended December 31st, 1925.

This Report is a survey report, as intimated by the Ministry of Health in a Circular dated December 18th, 1925, and deals with :—

(*a*) The measure of progress made in the area during the preceding five years in the improvement of the public health ;

(*b*) The extent and character of the changes made during that period in the public health services of the area (*e.g.*, housing, water supply, sewerage, scavenging or refuse disposal, food inspection, or other services affecting the environment of the inhabitants ; and maternity and child welfare schemes, schemes for the treatment of tuberculosis and venereal diseases, provision of isolation hospitals, or other services directed to the prevention or cure of disease in individuals) ;

(*c*) Any further action of importance in the organisation or development of public health services contemplated by the Local Authority or considered desirable by the Medical Officer of Health.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

C. F. DRUITT,

M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.).

Parkfields,
1,217, *London Road,*
Alvaston, Derby,
May, 1926.

Annual Health Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1925.

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

The Area of the District is 1,591 acres.

POPULATION.

Census, 1921	1,632
Estimated, 1925	1,635

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER.

The area is flat. It lies between the River Derwent on the north and the Derby Canal on the south-west.

It is 140 feet above sea-level, and the soil is sandy loam, and the sub-soil gravel. A mile of clay strata is introduced on the west side.

INHABITED HOUSES.

1921	374
1925	451

RATEABLE VALUE.

Buildings	£6,160	5	0
Land..	£2,746	0	0

A Penny Rate produces approximately £28 10s. 6d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The occupations in the area are Agricultural and Dairy Farming.

The majority of the residents are employed in the Railway Works (L.M.S.), Motor Works (Rolls-Royce), and the British Cellulose Works (Spondon).

VITAL STATISTICS, 1925.

Births :—	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	15	17	32
Illegitimate	2	1	3
Total	17	18	35

Deaths :—	Male.	Female.	Total.
	15	14	29

Rates per 1,000 of Population :—

Birth Rate	21.41
Death Rate	17.74

Amount of Poor Law Relief :—

1921	£153 19 9
1925	£236 4 6

The Guardians' Infirmary at Shardlow is practically used only as a last resort.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

The following **HOSPITALS,** though not situated in the area, are available.

(1) **Tuberculosis.**—At Walton, near Chesterfield. Provided by the County Council.

(2) **Maternity.**—No provision.

(3) **Children.**—No provision.

(4) **Fever.**—At Draycott, provided jointly with Shardlow Rural District Council, Long Eaton Urban, and Ilkeston Borough. 38 beds.

(5) **Small Pox.**—Partly supported by the Council, and provided by the Long Eaton U.D.C.

Ambulance Facilities are provided for infectious cases.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

School children attend at the Derby School Clinic, Jury Street.

Tuberculosis patients attend at the Derby Tuberculosis Dispensary, St. Mary's Gate, on Tuesdays and Fridays.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Claud Francis Druitt, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Medical Officer of Health (part time), Poor Law Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator.

James Robinson, Sanitary Inspector (whole time) and Surveyor.

Health Visitors for Tuberculosis provided by County Council.

Professional Nursing in the Home.—Nothing provided.

Midwives.—None provided. Two practising in the area.

Chemical Work.—The County Analyst undertakes the investigation of all samples submitted. During the last five years seventy-six samples have been submitted by the County Inspector, or our local Sanitary Inspector.

Legislation in Force.—The Public Health Act, 1875. The Notification of Infectious Diseases Act, 1889, applied by The Infectious Diseases Extension Act, 1899.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

A constant supply of Derby Corporation (Bamford Valley) water is available, and much utilised, and is now laid on directly to 446 houses. There are no standpipes. Plumbo Solvency is not marked. No contamination suspected during the year 1925.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There is no river actually touching our area. A brook, known as " Party-Nook Brook," discharges into the River Derwent one mile outside the area, carrying with it the surface water of Alvaston Street. This brook is polluted by the storm water from the Derby intercepting sewer, which at times carries much fæcal matter with the overflow. Twice within the last five years the Derby Corporation have cleared this brook, the last time being in November, 1925.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

387 houses in the District are connected by sewer with the Derby Corporation Sewage Works. An intercepting sewer intended to drain 55 houses and land in 1910 by the Derby Corporation, proved to be unworkable, and the annual rate paid for the same is still a dead loss.

A temporary filter bed has been erected to deal with the effluent of these 55 houses, and having proved beneficial, has been made permanent.

Where privies still exist (69 in number) they are emptied by the Council's own labour and carting.

In a somewhat isolated portion of the area, 18 temporary dwellings (railway carriages) have been erected, having a cesspool system of drainage. This has been going on for three years without complaint. Brick houses are now being substituted for the carriages.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The only remaining privies in the District (69 in number) cannot be converted into W.C.s until a new sewer is provided. There is no closet conservancy system in the area.

SCAVENGING.

Contents of privies, ashpits, and tub closets are removed to farm land. House refuse is removed weekly to tip.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Name of Inspector - JAMES ROBINSON.

Area of District, 1591 Acres. Estimated No. of Houses, 451.

New Houses Erected 1925, 44.

Housing and Town Planning—

No. of Houses Inspected under Section 17	421
No. unfit for Habitation	None
Representations made to Local Authority as to Closing Orders ...	None
Closing Orders made	None
No. Repaired without Closing Order	267
No. Closed	None
Number Demolished	None
No. Repaired Voluntary	267
Has a Scheme been prepared	Yes
No. of Houses proposed in scheme	12
Is the scheme in progress ?	Yes
No. of Houses yet to be completed or erected	12

	Number of Informal Notices served by Sanitary Inspector.	Number of Legal Notices served by Local Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated with or without Notice.
Drainage—			
No Disconnection of Waste Pipe ...	33	—	33
Defective Waste Pipe, Traps, Inlets and Drains	19	—	19
Drains Obstructed	11	—	11
Closets and Ashpits—			
Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits (Not for Conversion) ...	5	—	5
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s ...	12	—	12
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.'s	—	—	—
Conversion of Privies into Pail Closets	—	—	—
Defective Water Closets	12	—	12
Provision of Additional Water Closets	—	—	—
Provision of Portable Ashbins ...	32	—	32
Dirty Closets	—	—	—
Other Defects—			
Paving of Courts and Yards ...	4	—	4
Roofs, Eaves-Spouts and Down-Spouts	22	—	22
Sinks	14	—	14
Insufficient Ventilation	—	—	—
Windows	10	—	10
Dampness	—	—	—
Water in Cellars	2	—	2
Water Supply	15	—	15
Overcrowding	—	—	—
Foul Condition of Houses	—	—	—
Offensive Accumulations	—	—	—
Animals improperly kept	—	—	—
Pigsties	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—
Urinals	—	—	—
Nuisances not specified above ...	—	—	—
Totals ...	189	—	189

	No. on Register.	Inspections made.	Notices served.	Nuisances abated.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops ...	22	104	—	6
Bakehouses	1	52	—	—
Slaughterhouses	2	52	—	—
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Common Lodging-Houses	—	—	—	—
Total	25	208	—	6

Infected Rooms Disinfected.—Number, 104. Method, Sulphur Candle and Fomlin Spray.
Samples submitted for Examination.—Water, none; Milk, none.
Prosecutions, particulars of.—None.
Food Seizures.—None.
Food Voluntary Surrendered.—None.
Other Action taken.—None.

There has been no occasion of any action to be taken regarding the following Regulations :—

(*a*) Smoke abatement.

(*b*) Premises and occupations which can be controlled by bye-laws, or

(*c*) Other sanitary conditions requiring notice.

SCHOOLS.

Both the Elementary and Church schools in the area are supplied with town water and W.C.s.

HOUSING.

General Housing Conditions in the Area.

The Council has built 16 houses in 1925, and is proceeding with another 24 houses.

Twenty-eight houses have been built by private builders, and plans submitted for another 50.

The Borough Corporation are proceeding with 250 steel houses in this area.

It is thus probable that before long our population may be increased by 1,000 or 1,200.

There is still a shortage of 100 houses.

Considerable overcrowding is still evident ; in many cases this is done in order to support an appeal for one of the new houses.

The standard of housing in the area is mostly the six-roomed working-class type, and about one-third villas. The condition of both types of houses is satisfactory.

There has been no occasion of any **interference** by the Council with owners of property.

All new houses are supplied with town water for baths and W.C.s. No **bye-laws** exist in relation to houses let in lodgings.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Total number erected during the year ... 44.

Sixteen of these have been erected by the Council, with State assistance under the Housing Acts.

Unfit dwelling-houses	None.
Remedy of defects without service of formal notices	189.
Action under Statutory powers	None.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(*a*) The **Milk Supply** produced within the area is of a good quality. The cowsheds are well looked after, and inspections regularly made. There are 21 dairy farms in the area. Of these, 18 have their own wells, and 3 have Corporation water supply.

(*b*) **Meat.**

The meat killed in the district is inspected each week.

There is no public slaughter-house.

There is one private slaughter-house in use.

	In 1920.	In Jan., 1925.	In Dec., 1925.
Registered ...	None.	—	—
Licensed ...	None.	1	1
Total ..	None.	1	1

(*c*) **Other Foods.**

There is one bakehouse in the area, which is in good condition, and regularly inspected.

(*d*) There has been no case of food poisoning.

(*e*) **Sale of Food and Drugs Act.**

Samples collected by the County Inspector under these Acts are as follows:—

	Total Samples.	Milk Samples.
1921	18	8
1922	10	6
1923	10	6
1924	13	9
1925	10	6

In the year 1924 there were three prosecutions for the sale of adulterated milk, and in each case the vendor was fined £2, and 10s. 6d. costs.

Infectious Diseases Generally.

REVIEW OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR FIVE YEARS.

	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
Pulm. Tuberculosis ...	5	8	3	3	6
Other ,, ...	3	3	—	1	—
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	3	—	11	3	8
Diphtheria	1	—	1	1	1
Enteric Fever	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—
Ophth. Neon.	1	—	—	—	—
Enceph. Letharg. ...	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	5	5	6

Pathological and bacteriological investigations are carried out in the Laboratory of the Derbyshire County Council.

VACCINATIONS.

Since June, 1921, the following have been performed :—

Primary vaccinations	132
Re-vaccinations	31

The notification of **Chicken Pox** has been adopted.

CANCER.

In 1922 a house-to-house distribution was made of Dr. Fraser's pamphlet.

DISINFECTION.

This is chiefly carried out by the Sulphur Candle. An automatic Formalin Sprayer has been obtained this year (1925).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1925.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox	18	17	None
Scarlet Fever	2	1	None
Diphtheria	4	2	None
Enteric Fever	None	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	None	—	—
Pneumonia	6	None	2
Chicken Pox	8	None	None

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and mortality during 1925 :—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
45	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	3	2	—	—	2	1	—	—

One of these deaths was not notified as Tuberculosis previously.